

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification by entering the enclosed Sequence Listing.

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, lines 18-24, as follows:

Thus, a first aspect of the present invention describes a polypeptide immunogen comprising an amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the polypeptide does not contain a carboxyl terminus provided by amino acids 609-645 of SEQ ID NO: 2 and the polypeptide provides protective immunity against *S. aureus*. SEQ ID NO: 2 provides a full length ORF0657n polypeptide, wherein amino acids 609-645 provide the carboxyl terminus domain starting at the LPXTG (SEQ ID NO: 108) motif (as referred to herein as the “cell ~~well~~ wall sorting signal”).

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, lines 26-29, as follows:

Reference to comprising an amino acid sequence at least 90% identical to SEQ ID NO: 1 indicates that a SEQ ID NO: 1 related region is present and additional polypeptide regions may be present. If additional polypeptide regions are present, then the polypeptide does not have a carboxyl LPXTG (SEQ ID NO: 108) motif as provided by amino acids 609-645 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Please amend the paragraph on page 19, lines 9-18, as follows:

ORF0657n is a surface protein containing a 36-amino acid C-terminal cell wall sorting signal with a conserved “LPXTG” (SEQ ID NO: 108) motif. (Schneedwind *et al.* 1993, *EMBO*, 12: 4803-4811, 1993). Proteins containing a cell wall sorting signal are tethered to the cell wall envelope by a transpeptidation mechanism catalyzed by sortase, a membrane-bound protein (Mazmanian *et al*, *Science* 299:906-909, 2001). For tethering, the surface protein must also contain an N-terminal signal peptide for export into the secretory pathway. In the secretory pathway, the signal peptide is removed and the cell wall sorting signal facilitates retention in the secretory pathway. Sortase then cleaves between the threonine and the glycine of the LPXTG

(SEQ ID NO: 108) motif and catalyzes formation of an amide bond between the carboxyl-group of threonine and the amino-group of peptidoglycan cross-bridges.

Please amend the paragraph on page 27, lines 6-14, as follows:

ORF0657n has been implicated to have a role in *S. aureus* iron acquisition. (Andrade *et al.*, *Genome Biology* 3(9):47.1-47.5, 2003.) ORF0657n sequences, some of which are from different sources, have been given different designations in different references. (For example, see, Etz *et al.*, *PNAS USA*, 99:6573-6578, 2002 (LPXTGVI) (SEQ ID NO: 109); Baba *et al.*, *The Lancet* 359:1819-1827, 2002 (MW1011); Kuroda, *et al.*, *The Lancet* 357, 1225-1240, 2001 (SA0976); Andrade *et al.*, *Genome Biology* 3(9):47.1-47.5, 2003 (S_aur2); Mazmanian *et al.*, *Science* 299:906-909, 2003 (isdB); Mazmanian *et al.*, *Molecular Microbiology* 40:1049-1057, 2001 (sasJ); and Taylor *et al.*, *Mol. Microbiol.* 43:1603-1614, 2002 (sirH).